

Message Text

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60

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9511

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 6078

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FPRO, SY, LE

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 9-10 SYRIAN MEDIA REVIEW

1. MAJOR NEWS IN SEPT. 9 PRESS WAS CHAMOUN VISIT REPORTED DAMASCUS 6028. FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE ENTITLED "IRAQI SOLDIERS FLEE AND REFUSE REGIME'S ORDERS TO DESTROY LEBANON." QUOTED INFORMED SOURCES IN BEIRUT AS REVEALING THAT "LARGE NUMBER OF IRAQI TROOPS HAD BEEN DISPATCHED BY TREACHEROUS TAKRITI TRIBAL REGIME TO DESTROY LEBANON, INFLAME DIRTY FIGHTING AMONG LEBANESE BROTHERS AND PREVENT RESTORATION OF PEACE AND STABILITY. THESE SOURCES INDICATED THAT GROUP OF IRAQI TROOPS STATIONED IN BEIRUT HAD MUTINIED AGAINST THEIR TREACHEROUS COMMAND'S ORDERS AND REFUSED TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN DESTRUCTION OF LEBANON AND SLAUGHTER OF ITS CITIZENS." ARTICLE ADDED THAT IRAQI REGIME HAD DISPATCHED SEVERAL CONTINGENTS TO LEBANON VIA SIDON AND UNCLASSIFIED

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TYRE WITH AIM OF CONTINUING BLOODY LEBANESE TRAGEDY.

2. SEPT. 9 AL-THAWRAH BANNERED: "INTENSIFIED EFFORTS
CONCENTRATE ON NECESSITY OF RESCUING LEBANON AND FINDING
SETTLEMENT TO CRISIS. PRESIDENT ASAD RECEIVED IMAM MUSA
SAQ

AND ZUHAIR MUHSEN. FEELING OF OPTIMISM
WRFAILSRR

IN LEBANESE CIRCLES THAT SOLUTION OF CRISIS NEAR AS
RESULT OF SYRIAN EFFORTS." PRESS GAVE NO DETAILS OF
PRES. ASAD'S MEETINGS WITH IMAM SADR OR MUHSEN.

3. PRESS REPORTED THAT ON ORDER OF PRES. ASAD, DEPUTY
DEFENSE MINISTER NAJI JAMIL AND COS SHIHABI HAD MADE
INSPECTION TOUR OF BEKAA AND MET WITH MILITARY COMMANDERS
AND SOLDIERS THERE. THE TWO GENERALS ALSO MET WITH VANGUARDS
OF LEBANESE ARAB ARMY AND DISCUSSED SECURITY ISSUES AND
VANGUARDS' ROLE IN RESTORING NORMAL LIFE TO ALL OF LEBANESE
TERRITORY.

4. ARTICLE IN SEPT. 10 AL-BAATH READ IN PART: FACT IS
THAT PLOT TO PARTITION LEBANON AND PREOCCUPY ARABS WITH
FIGHTING EACH OTHER HAS NOT YET ENDED. TASK OF TWO
LATEST AMERICAN ENVOYS TO LEBANON IS SIMPLY TO SUPPLEMENT
MISSION OF PREVIOUS ENVOY BROWN IN SABOTAGING NEW PEACE
EFFORTS...TASK OF THE TWO AMERICANS CENTERS ON PLACING
OBSTACLES IN PATH OF INTENSIFIED SYRIAN POLITICAL
EFFORTS...SYRIAN EFFORTS MUST BE SUSTAINED BY EARNEST
AND SINCERE WORK TO RESTORE NATIONAL UNITY, STABILITY AND
TRANQUILLITY AS WELL AS LEBANESE-PALESTINAIN COHESION
IN ORDER TO DIRECT ALL EFFORTS AGAINST THE JOINT ENEMY."

5. TISHRIIN ARTICLE COMMENTED ON PRES. FOR'S RECENT
SPEECH BEFORE JEWISH LEADERS SAYING THAT AMERICAN
PRESIDENT HAD REVEALED HIS TRUE INTENTIONS TOWARD ARAB
NATION. COLUMNIST ALSO ATTACKED WHAT HE SAW AS "COHESION
BETWEEN THE TWO RACIST SYSTEMS IN ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA
AND THE EXTENT OF THEIR LINK WITH U.S. WHICH MISSES NO
OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM ITS SUPPORT FOR THEM."
PELLETREAU

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